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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

3-17-1971

To: Don Thomas

John Allen Chalk

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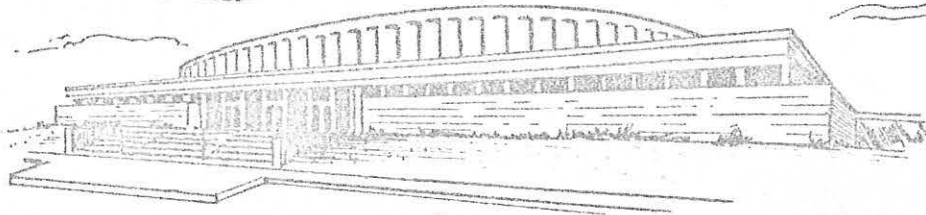
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March 17, 1971

Don Thomas, Lcd (MC)
VR-24
FPO New York, 09540

Dear Don:

I needed your letter of March 5 on the precise day that it arrived in Abilene. I marvelled at the way God moved you to write the letter and at the way you wrote so substantially. Often when we talk about spiritual matters and often when friends of mine attempt to encourage me, I get the feeling that it is superficial and hollow, even though well intended. I got none of that sensation when reading your letter and was profoundly encouraged by it. I thanked God for the way you allowed Him to use you with the writing of that letter.

Thank you for praying for us here. Of course, there are times when I am not sure at all about our being in Abilene. We have, however, felt that we had heard and answered God's call in staying here two years ago and preaching for the Highland congregation. It was not all so pleasant but these two years have been the most spiritually enriching years for Sue and me. We have been caused over and over again to have nothing to depend on save the shed blood of Jesus and the glorious power of God's indwelling Spirit.

I have been deeply interested in your contemplated move to Zambia. Lula, of course, has kept me informed about it. I have prayed for you a number of times concerning this decision and I assure you that I continue to pray that you will discern God's leading in this matter.

Thank you for sending me 1 Peter 5:7 and 8. Not only did I need that specific word from God but I have shared it with a number of others who felt the same power of it. The other night in a small group Bible study with some young adults I shared this passage and what it had done to me, and saw a similar impact on them.

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The ACC Missions Seminar will be a very rich experience for you. You will also make a number of significant contributions to the Seminar. I am so glad that you and your family are coming. Unfortunately, the College had to "dump" me from the teaching schedule because of brotherhood pressure. I will, however, speak during one week of the night sessions. It will be great having you here.

We continue to pray that God will give you wisdom and direction in this time of decision (James 1:5-8).

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:hm